

# JIKO – “Wisdom – Light”

SEPTEMBER 2023

VOLUME 69, ISSUE 09

Monthly Newsletter of  
The Aiea Hongwanji Mission

AIEA HONGWANJI  
MISSION

Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Joy Together



## MINISTER’S MESSAGE

### Making Informed Decisions and Choices

by Rev. Eric Matsumoto

Reflection:

*Of organizations, there are three kinds. First, there are those that are organized on the basis of the power, wealth or authority of great leaders.*

*Second, there are those that are organized because of its convenience to the members, which will continue to exist as long as the members are satisfied and do not quarrel. Third, there are those that are organized with some good teaching as its center and harmony as its very life. Of course, the third or last of these is the only true organization, for in it the members live in one spirit, from which unity and various kinds of virtue will arise. In such an organization there will prevail harmony, satisfaction and happiness.*

From “The Teaching of Buddha

Today, I would like to encourage everyone who is reading this message to seriously consider attending temple service on Sundays at 9AM. While not negating the importance of this Newsletter as a means of communication including communicating the Dharma, at present, our Sunday Morning Service is the primary vehicle by which our religious teachings including our Buddhist values and perspectives are shared. If you are not availing yourself of this service offered by the temple, which is the main reason the temple even exists, then you are not taking advantage of an opportunity that can bring about a change in your life and by extension society too. I am sure we all want to live in a better society, but a better society is not going to materialize just by hoping for it nor should we wait for others to make it happen. We must all be involved in creating a better society or being a better society. The main goal of Shin Buddhism/Jodo Shinshu is not to create a better society or change the world, but as a byproduct of becoming aware of the Buddha-Dharma we can contribute to a more peaceful and harmonious world. Ultimately, society does not create us, we, the people, create society. If we want change, we need to make the difference by bringing about those causes and conditions that will result in a better society. Our society is plagued by many ills and problems and we need to address the causes and conditions which give rise to them. Likewise, if there are virtues and values which are meaningful, we need to make the effort and commitment to perpetuate them. In dealing with issues and problems, many times, we unintentionally end up trying to take care of symptoms and do not address the causes or conditions which gave rise to it. Our Teachings would



### FOR ASSISTANCE OF THE MINISTER

Please call:

**Reverend**

**Eric Matsumoto**

808-487-2626 (AHM  
office)

If he is not  
available, leave a  
message on the  
answering  
machine.

\*\*\*

For religious  
Emergencies  
(Makurago or bedside  
services), please call  
Rev. Matsumoto on his  
mobile phone:

808-488-5685

\*\*\*

**Aiea Hongwanji  
Mission,**  
99-186 Puakala St,  
Aiea, Hawaii 96701  
Phone: 808-487-2626

**Email:**

[aieajiko@gmail.com](mailto:aieajiko@gmail.com)

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[aieabuddhisttemple.org](http://aieabuddhisttemple.org)

Minister's message continued from page 1

insightfully encourage us that in order to change or improve we need positive influences which promote positive results. While this may seem common sense, is it how we act and live? Or do we resort, again and again, to the same things or ways in handling situations? I will admit that the Buddhist way of handling matters is not the easiest and it does take more time and energy, but the hope is that it will reap greater benefits in the future for all of us!

Someone once asked "Is Buddhism a religion, a philosophy, a way of life?" The answer is "YES." It's all of the above. The Wisdom and Compassion of the Buddha should not be limited in any way. It is not limited to only Sunday, too. Buddhism is not only for the deceased or about funeral and memorial services. Buddhism should guide our thoughts and actions at every moment throughout our life including death and even beyond with our birth in the Pure Land of Enlightenment. Wisdom and Compassion gives birth to peace, happiness and awareness. To me, our Buddhist Tradition provides us, many times, with a set of different values, perspectives and methodology to nurture and guide us and bring about the desired positive results. In this sense, in order to make informed choices we need to be informed. But in order to make these informed choices, we need to know the Dharma or Teachings so it can guide us in our thinking and thus in our (daily) actions. With right understanding then we can go on to appropriate action as our responding in gratitude to Amida Buddha for unconditionally accepting me just as I am. I cannot perfectly live or put into action the Dharma nor does Amida Buddha require it of us, but I can, at least, try to, out of gratitude to Amida Buddha and in lament of my imperfect self.

To conclude, for the sake of a brighter future including that of the Temple, please make every effort to attend Temple Services and other events and functions in support of the Temple. We want to, even more, make Aiea Hongwanji a vibrant place where people can gather to learn the Dharma, to enjoy fellowship, and make a difference in the community! Let us go to the Buddha, Dharma and Sangha for Guidance. I look forward to seeing you at the Temple and especially Sunday Morning Services. Thank you.

Namo Amida Butsu/Entrusting in All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



To Our Sangha:

A lot of activities took place this past month which are detailed in this newsletter. Thank you to all who have participated and volunteered in the many community events that AHM sponsored, as well as those sponsored by other organizations. Most importantly, our gratitude and appreciation goes out to the generous and selfless people who have responded to the needs of the victims of the Maui Wildfire catastrophe. On page 3, HHMH has established a Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund to which donations can be made in various ways. You also can mail a check made out to Aiea Hongwanji Mission with a note in the memo line to have your donation go to the Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund, mail it to

AHM at 99-186 Puakala Street Aiea, HI 96701, and AHM will send the accumulated donations received to HHMH.

Please refer to the calendar of events on the last page for what's happening in September and October. Note that the Temple Beautification Day (no service) has been switched to Sunday, September 10th due to the Maui Wildfires Memorial Service that will be held on September 24th. AHM will be live streaming that service via Zoom at the AHM temple for those who would rather not drive to the Betsuin.

Now that we received the Building Permit, from September 25th through early December, half of the social hall and all of the kitchen will be shut down to do the foundation retrofit work that is long overdue. Hall usage schedules will have to be modified to accommodate this construction work. Please pardon this inconvenience. Thank you.

In gassho,

Boyd Marumoto

*Aiea Hongwanji Mission extends its Deepest Condolences to the families of the Late Mr. Ben Kaito, Mr. Ernest Yamanoha, and Mr. Roy Kunimune.*

*Namo Amida Butsu*

## Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii - HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 \*\* Phone: (808) 522-9200 Fax: (808) 522-9209

Web: [www.hongwanjihawaii.com](http://www.hongwanjihawaii.com) Email: [hqs@honpahi.org](mailto:hqs@honpahi.org)

### MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

#### “Statement regarding the Disaster on Maui”

I would like to express my deepest condolences to those who lost their lives as a result of the disaster in Maui, and my heartfelt sympathy to those who have lost their homes and are living as evacuees.

The fire that broke out on August 8, 2023, devastated the city of Lahaina. As of today, 93 people are confirmed to have died, and more than 2,000 buildings have been damaged or destroyed. The historic town of Lahaina, which was once the capital of the Hawaiian Kingdom and a beautiful tourist destination visited by many people, was burnt to the ground.

Lahaina Hongwanji Mission, located in the center of the city, was not spared the destruction by the fire. The Resident Minister, Reverend Ai Hironaka, his family, and many of the temple members have safely evacuated and are currently living a life of inconvenience. As for the damage to the temple, it is expected to take some time to confirm its state, partly because the town is under lockdown.

The history of the Lahaina Hongwanji Mission began in 1904. Since then, the light of the Nembutsu Dharma has been successfully passed down through the dedication and contribution of the Resident Ministers, their families, temple members, and many people in the community. Lahaina Hongwanji Mission, along with other churches and temples, was the place of refuge for the people living in the area. I remember the sound of the Nembutsu reverberating in the Hondo on Sundays. It is truly sad for all of us that such a practice hall of the Nembutsu was destroyed by the disaster.

The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii established the Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund. Since then, we have received much support not only from within the State of Hawaii but also from all over the world, including the mainland United States, Canada, and Japan. On behalf of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii ministers and members, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to those who extended compassionate words and actions for those on Maui. I would like to humbly ask for your continued support.

Recovery on Maui could take years. Many people are living in anxiety about their uncertain future. As fellow travelers of the Nembutsu, let us stand in solidarity with those who are experiencing suffering and sorrow brought about by this unprecedented encounter.

Even though the temple buildings have been damaged, our sincere aspiration of listening to and sharing the Nembutsu teaching never disappears. This is not the end of 119 years of the history of Lahaina Hongwanji. We are all the more determined to dedicate ourselves to establishing a society where the sound of the Nembutsu prevails.

May the Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha embrace us all. May the sound of the Nembutsu brings us peace and comfort, and gives us the courage to move forward. Namo Amida Butsu.

Toshiyuki Umitani  
Bishop

**MAUI WILDFIRE DISASTER RELIEF FUND** - In the spirit of compassionate action, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii have established the **MAUI WILDFIRE DISASTER RELIEF FUND**. You can donate in the following ways:

- 1) Online at [www.hongwanjihawaii.com](http://www.hongwanjihawaii.com), click on the “Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief” button under the “Donate” tab.
- 2) Through GoFundMe at the following link: <https://gofund.me/ff77a520>
- 3) Check and cash donations can be sent directly to Hawaii Kyodan Headquarters. Please make check payable to HHMH and in the memo line designate “Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief” to ensure proper credit and mail to: Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii at 1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813.

All donations collected will go to support Lahaina Hongwanji and relief efforts on Maui. Updates will be shared on our website at <http://honpahi.link/fire>



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Aloha all. I hope you are well. The Maui Wildfire Disaster fills the news as we find out a little more each day about the wildfire's rapid spread, the work being done to care for those displaced from their homes, and the ongoing effort to find those who are still missing. We do know that the Lahaina Hongwanji temple buildings (with possible exception of the columbarium) have burned to the ground. My sincere condolences to those who have lost loved ones and sincere sympathy to those who have lost their homes and possessions.

We are grateful that there has been an outpouring of support from around the world. Donations of food, clothing, and monetary donations have arrived on Maui. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is on the ground in Maui, coordinating the disaster response with State and County agencies and personnel.

I am grateful that we (Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii) have been able to respond to this disaster, working together as a family. A GoFundMe effort was quickly organized, spearheaded by Rev. Kerry Kiyohara and has raised tens of thousands of dollars. The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii's **Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund** was established with the goals of supporting non-profit agencies providing relief for everyone affected by the disaster (such as the Red Cross and Hawaii Community Foundation's Maui Strong) and the Lahaina Hongwanji temple members. Information about the Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund was shared with our sister organizations at the Buddhist Churches of America, the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada and our mother temple (Honzan) in Kyoto, Japan. We have many friends all over the world and they are eager to help.

The **Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund** has raised tens of thousand of dollars. If you are not familiar with this term, please check with your temple leaders or go to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii website at <https://hongwanjihawaii.com>. The HHMH Social Concerns Committee will be responsible for distributing the money collected for this fund drive, with valuable input from Maui members.

Here are a few of the things that we are doing to help our friends on Maui. The Social Concerns Committee helped with setting up the Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund, disseminating the information on social media and by keeping us informed of relief efforts that are available on Maui. The HHMH website is updated regularly and is an excellent place to find information about our effort to support the people of Maui. A group of ministers and temple leaders from Maui meets regularly via Zoom with the goal of connecting with Lahaina members and providing assistance with housing and other immediate needs. Phone calls to the Lahaina Hongwanji temple have been rerouted to Headquarters to help our Lahaina leadership and possibly get information about missing members. At the time of this writing, we are still trying to collect as much information about our Lahaina members as possible. Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani visited Maui on August 19<sup>th</sup>, to meet with key ministers and temple members on Maui. Thank you, Bishop Umitani.

I am thankful for the tremendous effort that our Sangha has made to help those who are suffering from the effects of the Maui wildfires. Headquarters personnel, District Councils, suborganizations such as the BWA, individual temples, and Sangha members have contributed to the relief effort. There may be more that we can do. If you have any suggestions or are able to help, please call our headquarters or send an email.

In Gassho,

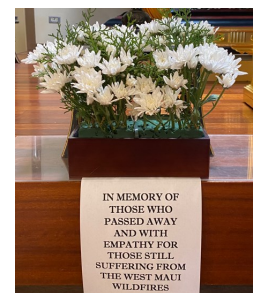
Dr. Warren Tamamoto, President, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

## MAUI WILDFIRE MEMORIAL SERVICE

The State Ministers Association assisted by Maui District Ministers Association will host a memorial service for the victims of the Maui wildfires under the guidance of Bishop Umitani on Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 10:00 a.m., at the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin in person, no RSVP required, or via Zoom. Individuals may register by September 21, 2023 using the Registration Form at: <https://forms.gle/QfqQGpweBZR4GvJm8>. You will receive the Zoom link via email from HHMH no earlier than one week prior to the event.

Dharma Talk will be given by Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani.

All donations collected from this service will go to the HHMH Maui Wildfire Relief Fund.



## MAHALO LUNCHEON FOR OUTGOING BISHOP ERIC MATSUMOTO



A very special event was held on July 8, 2023, at the Ala Moana Hotel Ballroom in Honolulu. It was the Mahalo Luncheon for Outgoing Bishop Eric T. Matsumoto, who spent the last 12 years providing religious guidance to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii (HHMH) and as part of the Interfaith community. Over 200 people turned out to show their gratitude for his wise and compassionate leadership. His wife Tamayo, son Caden, and brother Alan were present for the festivities.

There was a performance of songs from the musical “Peace On Your Wings” by several of the cast members. After Aloha messages from guests, gift presentations from the HHMH, State Ministers’ Association, Hawaii Federation of Buddhist Women’s Association, Hawaii Federation of Lay Association, Hawaii Federation of Junior YBA, and Pacific Buddhist Academy. We also celebrated his new journey as resident minister of Aiea Hongwanji Mission.



## SHINJUSHIKI-OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION BY GOMONSHU

Bishop Umitani traveled to Japan from July 25 to August 1, 2023, to attend the Shinjushiki, the ceremony of receiving the official letter of appointment directly from Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani, the spiritual head of the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha tradition at Honzan Kyoto. The ceremony was held at Shiro Shoin (the White Chamber) inside of the Hongwanji, together with Bishop Marvin Harada of Buddhist Churches of America. Reverend Umitani had various meetings with Honzan officials and professors of the Ryukoku University, and other related institutions and individuals during his time in Japan.

## INVESTITURE CEREMONY

The Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin on the Pali Highway on August 5, 2023, was the scene for the inauguration of the New Bishop of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. Former Bishop Eric Matsumoto officiated a short service as the ministers and audience chanted the Juseige along with Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani. During the service, Former Bishop Eric Matsumoto read a letter of appointment from Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani, the spiritual head of the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha tradition, conferring the title of Bishop upon Reverend Umitani.



In a moving ceremony in front of the audience which consisted of the ministers from all over the state and members of the Sangha watched as Reverend Toshiyuki Umitani was given the vestments for his new role as Bishop. The

congratulatory gifts of new Bishop’s special robes and religious items were given to Reverend Umitani from the State Ministers’ Association, Hawaii Federation of Buddhist Women’s Association, Hawaii Federation of Lay Association, and Hawaii Federation of Junior YBA.

There was a short break in the service as Bishop Umitani changed into his new robes. The audience gathered with the newly installed Bishop to take commemorative pictures with Bishop Umitani.



HEADQUARTERS UPDATE IS CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## Junior YBA Happenings

By Arryn Ishikawa

As we say goodbye to our seniors who are headed off to college, we welcome the new school year! We can't believe the summer went by so fast but we did so much!

This summer, the United of Oahu was able to provide help at 5 of our district bon dances and attend one as part of our convention activities. Thank you to all our members and friends for giving your time to help support our district temples! We had a great time!



We also had a really enjoyable senior celebration for Ty and Chihiro planned by Kana Suzuki and her mom, Yumi.

Our United took our graduates to Shabu Shabu at Ala Moana for all you can eat Shabu Shabu. There were so many choices of meats and vegetables and seafood to choose from. We probably ate our weight in meat and vegetables but found some space for dessert at Meet Fresh, a Taiwanese dessert shop that serves boba drinks, shaved ice, grass jelly and other delightful goodies!

In August we had our election of officers and installation. Congratulations to our new officers for the 2023-2024 year:

President: Diandra Thomson (Mililani)  
Vice President: Dymin Kakazu (Mililani)  
Secretary: Arie Yamasaki (Mililani)  
Treasurer: Taylor Kunimitsu (Aiea)

We started planning our upcoming activities and will be having our next meeting on Sunday, September 3 at 11:30am at Mililani Hongwanji.

We are always open for new members to join Jr. YBA and membership is open for students entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade through students up to 2 years after High School graduation.

Please contact Jr. YBA advisor Aunty Arryn Ishikawa at [arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com](mailto:arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com) if you'd like more information.

You can also follow us on Instagram! @jrybafoahu and @hawaiiifedjryba



*Thank you to our E-Waste Collection volunteers!!*



# Ohana Day

## O'AHU DISTRICT PEACE DAY FAMILY EVENT

SEPTEMBER 23, 2023, SATURDAY

8:30 AM to 12:30 PM

WHERE: LOKO I'A PĀ'AIAU FISHPOND

122-184 MCGREW LOOP, 'AIEA

HAWAIIAN PROTOCOL / HISTORY AT AN ANCIENT HAWAIIAN FISHPOND

(paaiau.org) AND WORKDAY FOR ALL AGES. PLEASE WEAR COVERED SHOES

Bring folding chairs, Sun screen and your energy!

Directions: <https://goo.gl/maps/5x6hqcHGJbjvkWRx9>

BE GREEN AND CARPOOL



## E KOMO MAI

This 400-year old royal Hawaiian fishpond, Loko I'a Pā'aiau, located in the Kalauao ahupua'a in the 'Ewa moku on the mokupuni of O'ahu, is a beautiful reminder of the peace, healing, and lōkahi Hawai'i once had. It was home to Mo'i Wahine Kalanimanuiā, who reigned peacefully over the island of O'ahu in the 1400s. This 6.34 acre loko kuapā, located in the Pa'aiau 'ili of the Kalauao ahupua'a, is listed on the National Historic Register. The sacred site is currently stewarded and restored with the loving hands of many, as a community-based partnership between the U.S.Navy, the Ali'i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club, the 'Aiea Community Association, the descendants and residents of Pā'aiau, 'Aiea and Kalauao, and the larger community.

**Ahu or altar where offerings are made by visitors to PĀ'AIAU. This can be anything: stone, greenery, fruit.**



After registration and Hawaiian protocol, we will divide up into work groups to do special projects around the fishpond; weeding, planting, path building.



SUBMIT BENTO ORDERS by TEMPLE • Bento: Karaage Chicken, Teri-Beef, Fried Fish, Spam, White Rice, Takuan and Bottled Water • Cost \$12.00 each

Checks payable to Aiea Hongwanji Mission

Order Deadline September 10, 2023 • Contact Gayle Yamaguchi at

[gayleyamaguchi@gmail.com](mailto:gayleyamaguchi@gmail.com), if you have questions.

Open Invitation to All...

# 5<sup>th</sup> Virtual State Dharma School Gathering

Featuring Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani

Sunday, October 15, 2023

10:00 a.m. to 12 noon

(8:45 – 9:45 am – DS Teachers/  
Educators Session)



"Just  
As You  
Are"

8:45 – 9:45 am – DS Teachers/  
Educators Session

10:00 - 10:30 am – Intergenerational  
Service: Dharma Message by  
Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani

10:30 - 11:30 am - Breakout Rooms:  
DS & Adult Rooms

11:30 am - All return to Main Room:  
DS Groups share creations

12:00 pm - End

RSVP Deadline:  
October 1, 2023

Click on the link  
to register:

<https://forms.gle/2gEt3ar5qkwamrE7>

Questions?

Please

Contact:

Debbie Kubota-  
[dekub88@gmail.com](mailto:dekub88@gmail.com)

Gathering Zoom Link  
will be emailed to  
participants by Friday,  
October 13.

*A Commission on  
Buddhist Education  
(CBE) Project of  
Honpa Hongwanji  
Mission of Hawaii*





# BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS

August has been an extremely busy month.

On the eve of August 8th. Reverend Eric, Tamayo Sensei, Sugiko, Mavis, Helen, Elaine, Claire, Caran (Ewa Hongwanji), Chad (Jr. YBA) and Advisors, Gay and Aryn. As well as Friends of AHM: Miki, Cora, Byron, Aiko and Hideko, all gathered together to participate in the second annual "Lights for Peace" event held at Pearl Harbor and held lessons on folding origami cranes.

This event was open to the public to observe the 78th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. At sunset, all the luminaries with messages of hope, inspiration, and world peace lit up the shores along Pearl Harbor.



The Manhattan Project National Historical Park also held Lights for Peace events at three sites across the United States in Washington, New Mexico, and Tennessee.

This year's memorial event comes after Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui and United States Ambassador Rahm Emanuel signed a historic Sister Parks Agreement between Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and Pearl Harbor National Memorial.

The partnership aims to acknowledge the tragedy of WWII while seeking to embrace peace moving forward.

Pearl Harbor National Memorial Chief of Interpretation David Kilton said, "I hope the message we provide to the family members and survivors of those who died during the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as well as those connected to the attack on Pearl Harbor or any of the other numerous battles fought throughout World War II, is that although these horrifying events impacted the lives and futures of countless numbers of people, those events do not have to define our relationships for all time. The more we learn about the events that led up to and resulted from this history, the better we might be able to weigh the decisions we make today, and hopefully seek to understand and work out our differences peacefully, which will prevent anyone from having to deal with similar loss and suffering in the future."

On Thursday, August 10th, Gayle and her family initiated support for all the victims of the devastating wildfires on Maui. Hours later, the rest of the Sangha quickly responded and soon countless numbers of bagged donations were dropped off on the hall ready to be transported to the State Capitol.

Throughout the morning on Friday, August 11th, four truck loads, seven vans (filled from front to back and top to bottom), and a carload of all donations were transported by Reverend Eric, Mark, Gayle, Doreen, George, Gayle, Gary, and Grant to the donation site. It is truly heart warming to witness so many from our Sangha pulling together. What an awesome display of Dana! Thank you everyone. We are so grateful to be surrounded by such wonderful members!!!

On Saturday, August 12th, several volunteers from our Sangha generously offered their help to Pearl City to support their return to in-person OBON festivities. Many hardworking AHM members manned the concession booth and assisted in the kitchen. Thank you to all who worked tirelessly well into the evening: Warren, Claire, Elaine, Jen (Elaine's daughter), Mavis, Gayle, Ross, Susan M., Caran (Ewa Hongwanji), and Chad (Jr. YBA).

All these events including preparing Sunday Hosha meals, being responsible for the upkeep of the columbarium, and collating the JIKO for mailing are just some of the tasks fulfilled by our hardworking BWA ladies. If you are a BWA member or would like to volunteer to lessen the load for our women on Sundays, we invite you to join the camaraderie. Your presence and kokua to assist us at least one Sunday a month in the kitchen will be greatly appreciated.

In Gassho,

D. Okawa

*If you are homebound, in a care home or in the hospital, and would like Reverend Eric to visit you, please contact him at (808) 488-5685 to make arrangements.*

## WELCOME LUNCHEON FOR THE 17<sup>TH</sup> BISHOP REVEREND TOSHIYUKI UMITANI

“Ko Ko Sho Gon,” *Adorned with the Fragrance of Light*, was the luncheon theme for the welcome luncheon of the new Bishop Reverend Toshiyuki Umitani. The party was held at the Sheraton Waikiki after the Investiture Ceremony on August 5 and was an intimate gathering of around 200 people. The welcome luncheon marks a new era of change as the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii embarks on recovering from the economic fallout of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The bishop’s daughters, Naho and Riho, performed two numbers to surprise their father and mother. To the delight of the attendees, Naho’s beautiful singing was accompanied by Riho’s skillful keyboard playing. They were a hit. Thanks to the luncheon committee for decorating the tables for the luncheon with the favors and to Ann Nakata of Moililli Hongwanji for the beautiful floral centerpieces that were filled with the fragrance of light. Bishop Umitani’s welcome luncheon ended with a flurry of lights as the attendees held up their cell phones as if to punctuate the music of Keali’i Reichel with a gentle wave. It was a beautiful ending to a delightful luncheon.



## KA LEO KĀHEA SEEKS MANAGING EDITOR

*Ka Leo Kāhea*, the Official Publication of the HHMH, is seeking a new managing editor. Work from home. Responsibilities include meeting with the editorial team, editing articles, and working with the graphic designer on the layout of this quarterly, eight-page newsletter. If you have editing experience and are interested in this paid position, please send an email with EDITOR in the subject line to HQ Update at: [hqs@honpahi.org](mailto:hqs@honpahi.org).

View *Ka Leo Kāhea*, at: <https://hongwanjihawaii.com/blog/tag/ka-leo-kahea/>

## PEACE DAY: 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL RING YOUR BELL FOR PEACE DAY

DATE: Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

TIME: Program is 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. (Bell ringing is 9:01 -9:05 a.m.)

PLACE: ZOOM – International participation promoting Peace

“E KOMO MAI!

Now more than ever, your spirit of hope and promoting peace in the world and our community is needed. Please join in our annual recognition for the United Nations International Day of Peace and Peace Day in Hawaii. Please register and receive inspirational messages, honor those who have fought for our peace, and ring your bells for peace! Maui Strong will be in our prayers during these sad and difficult times. Add your mana, your power and ring your bells, turn on your cameras as we can view friends from Ukraine, Germany, Japan, Canada, the mainland states, and neighbor islands – schools, churches, parks, businesses, and homes will be filled with bells ringing!

Here is the link: [bit.ly/PeaceDay2023](https://bit.ly/PeaceDay2023)

Make sure you stay for the whole program as ukulele virtuoso, Jake Shimabukuro, our Ambassador of Peace, will close the program with his songs for peace.

For questions, call 808-291-6151, email: [renemansho@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:renemansho@hawaii.rr.com)

Rene Mansho, Chair of Peace Day Committee



# E Ho`ohanohano i ke Ola o Mary Mikahala Foster



Please join us for a  
twilight concert honoring  
Mary Mikahala Foster

Sponsored by the Honolulu District  
Hongwanji Buddhist Temples and  
Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens  
at the Foster Botanical Garden, Daibutsu area

## September 8, 2023

5:00 - 6:30 pm Donate here!



Free admission; donations welcome  
Picnics permitted / no alcoholic beverages  
Bring beach chairs and mats

Performers include: Nola Nahulu Choral Group; Udi Bar-David (Cellist,  
Philadelphia Symphony); Herb Lee Trio (Hawaiian Slack Key); Lehua Matsuoka (Hula  
Hula o Lehua o Nana'ihale); Katsumi Takemoto (Shakuhachi Japanese Flute); Pacific  
Buddhist Academy (Taiko Drummers)

For more information, please contact Jon Matsuoka at (808)536-7044 or [jmatsuoka@hawaiibetsuin.org](mailto:jmatsuoka@hawaiibetsuin.org)

Jodo Shinshu International Office

## A Panel Discussion Religious Perspectives on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) No. 5 "Gender Equality"

Saturday, September 30  
2:00 pm to 3:30 pm (PDT)

Available in-person or online  
Location: Jodo Shinshu Center (2140 Durant, Berkeley, CA 94704)



Registration  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/  
tZlucq-qrDwpEtUbw5BjVRZiY3sqC6NnLp2g](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/join?join_source=qr&join_source_url=https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlucq-qrDwpEtUbw5BjVRZiY3sqC6NnLp2g)



**Prof. Ameena Jandali**  
Founding member of Islamic Networks Group (ING) and professor  
at City College of San Francisco.



**Rev. Moteo Yamada Foor**  
Ordained pastor of California Nevada Annual Conference and  
Director of Adult Discipleship, The United Methodist Church.



**Dr. Jeff Wilson**  
Professor of Religious Studies and East Asian Studies at Renison  
University College and the University of Waterloo. He received his  
tokudo ministerial ordination at Nishi Hongwanji in 2012.

Contact us: [office@isinternational.org](mailto:office@isinternational.org)

## Family Memorial Service

In the Japanese Buddhist tradition, families hold memorial services (Nen-ki Hoyo) in memory of our loved ones, and to express our gratitude for Amida Buddha's Infinite Light. The Buddha's Wisdom and Compassion embrace our loved ones in the land of peace and happiness. May we also remember Amida's embrace on our lives as we remember those who have departed.

If your family would like to arrange a memorial service for your loved one, please call Reverend Eric Matsumoto at (808)-488-5685, or leave a message on the office phone: (808)-487-2626. You may schedule the service either before or after the memorial date.

### September 2023

3rd	Shinko	Kubo
17th	Albert Goro	Takushi
25th	Tsugiyoshi	Tanigawa
25th	Alice Misuyo	Nitta

### October 2023

17th	Richard Megumi	Matsunaga
33rd	Stanley	Tsuda
33rd	Yoshio	Tochiki

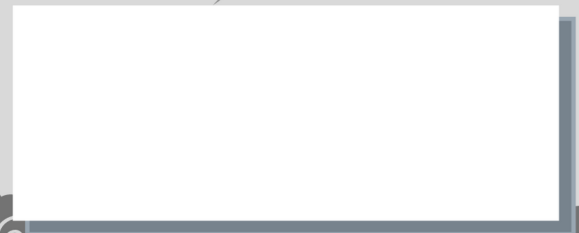
### November 2023

7th	Ronald Masami	Oba
7th	Mildred Mutsuko	Nomura
13th	Juichi	Tokioka
17th	Todd Etsuo	Maeda
17th	Mitsuo	Hara
25th	Namie	Takaki
25th	Ethel Hatsumi	Kanbara
33rd	Juichi	Yoshioka
33rd	Yoshio	Tanimoto
33rd	Tsuru	Hayashi

Aiea Hongwanji Mission  
 99-186 Puakala Street  
 Aiea, HI, 96701

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**Calendar of Events for September 2023**

3	Sun	9:00 am	Sunday Family Service
3-4	Sun-Mon	2:00 pm	Ministers' Spouses Assoc. Seminar (Oahu) with opening service at AHM.
6	Tue	9:30 am	Oahu District Ministers Meeting
10	Sun	8:00 am	Temple Beautification Day (No Service)
11	Mon	6:00 pm	Oahu Lay Assoc Quarterly Mtg followed by Council mtg
14	Thurs	9:00 am	Preschool Temple Services
15-16	Fri-Sat		60 <sup>th</sup> HH Lay Assoc. Convention in Kona
17	Sun	9:00 am	Autumn Higan/Equinox Major Service
19	Tue	7:00 pm	Temple BOD Meeting
21	Thurs	8:30 am	Ring Your Bell for Peace Day Event
23	Sat	8:00 am	Oahu District Ohana/Peace Day Event
24	Sun	10:00 am	Maui Wildfires Memorial Service (In-person at HHHB & via Zoom – livestreamed at AHM)
26	Tue	10:00 am	Hawaii Buddhist Council General Membership Mtg.

**October 2023**

1, 8, 22,&29	Sun	9:00 am	Sunday Family Service
7-8	Sat-Sun		Ministers Assistant Lay Retreat
13	Fri		Ritual Seminar for Ministers at BSC
13	Fri		PBA's Lighting Our Way Dinner Banquet
15	Sun		State Dharma School Online Gathering (View at temple w/Bishop Umitani as speaker)
17	Tue	7:00 pm	Temple BOD Meeting
22	Sun	10:30 am	BWA Meeting
28	Sat		Oahu United BWA Conference